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## VPI/SW/002 CIP2 FWC DIV2 CON

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Examiner

Cybille Delacroix Muirheid

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Group

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OCT 3 1 2003

Applicants

Paul R. Sleath et al.

**TECH CENTER 1600/2900** 

Application No.

09/670,106

Confirmation No.:

5809

Filed

September 26, 2000

For

INTERLEUKIN 1 $\beta$  PROTEASE AND INTERLEUKIN 1 $\beta$ 

PROTEASE INHIBITORS

New York, New York October 23, 2003

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This responds to the April 23, 2003 Office Action in the above-identified application.

Applicants have filed concurrently herewith a Petition for a three-month extension of time for replying to the Office Action and have paid the required fee under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136(a) and 1.17(a)(3). With the extension, the time for filing this response is extended up to and including October 23, 2003.

Kindly amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.